

Technical Documentation for the Congressional District Summary File (115th Congress)

The Census Bureau solicits the states for changes to their Congressional District boundaries between each congressional session. When any state reports changes, the Census Bureau releases a new Congressional District Summary File for that Congressional Session. This file contains the data compiled from the questions asked of all people and about every housing unit in the 2010 Census. Population items include sex, age, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, household relationship, household type, household size, family type, family size, and group quarters. Housing items include occupancy status, vacancy status, and tenure (whether a housing unit is owner-occupied or renter-occupied). The file contains subject content identical to that shown in the 2010 Census Summary File 1.

In 2013, the Census Bureau released the Congressional District Summary File (113th Congress) following the first legislative redistricting that occurred after the 2010 Census. The Census Bureau contacted state officials again to determine if there were any changes to their congressional district boundaries for the 114th Congress, and the states reported no changes. Therefore, no Congressional District Summary File (114th Congress) was released. The Census Bureau again contacted the states to determine if there were any changes to their congressional district boundaries for the 115th Congress, and four states – Florida, North Carolina, Virginia, and Minnesota – reported changes.

Congressional District Summary File (113th Congress) was released with accompanying technical documentation, that included information on how to use the product, geographic header records, data structure and segmentation, subject locators, summary level sequence charts, and a data dictionary.

Because the data, geography, summary levels and structure of the file are exactly the same for the Congressional District Summary File (115th Congress) as they were for the Congressional District Summary File (113th Congress), and the data are simply retabulations of the 2010 Census data, the Census Bureau has determined that no new technical documentation needs to be created for the Congressional District Summary File (115th Congress). Users of the Congressional District Summary File (115th Congress) should refer to the technical documentation released with the Congressional District Summary File (113th Congress) as the information in that document applies to both files.

<https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/doc/cd113.pdf>